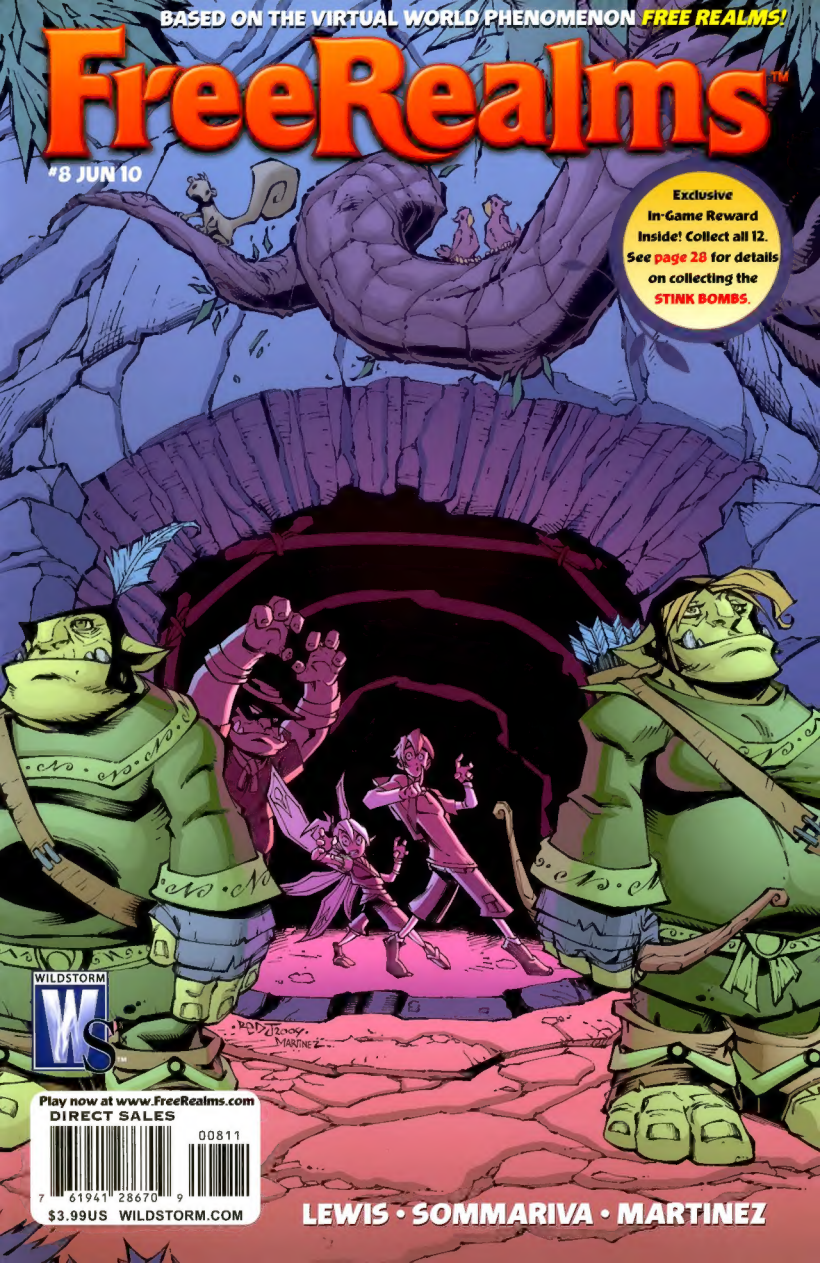
BASED ON THE VIRTUAL WORLD PHENOMENON *FREE REALMS!*

FreeRealms™

#8 JUN 10

Exclusive In-Game Reward Inside! Collect all 12. See page 28 for details on collecting the STINK BOMBS.



WILDSTORM

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LEWIS • SOMMARIVA • MARTINEZ

I USED TO LOOK FORWARD TO SCAVENGER HUNTS. WE'D GET A LIST OF ODDBALL ITEMS THAT WE HAD TO COLLECT FROM PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU KNOW, STUFF LIKE A CAN OF SARDINES, A MISMATCHED PAIR OF SOCKS, OR AN OLD MAGAZINE.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GOOD OLD DAYS? AND WHEN DID SCAVENGER HUNTS BECOME DEADLY?
I GOT THE KEY.
I DON'T REMEMBER HAVING TO GO IN SOME DEAD GUY'S BASEMENT TO GET ANYTHING ON THE LIST. THE LAME PRIZES WEREN'T WORTH RISKING MY LIFE.
BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT. THIS IS THE KIND OF SCAVENGER HUNT THAT CAN MAKE YOU RICH AND FAMOUS.
IT WON'T DO US ANY GOOD WITHOUT THE JOURNAL.
AND IF I PLAY MY CARDS RIGHT, WHO KNOWS? MAYBE I'LL GET A SECOND DATE WITH THE QUEEN.
OH YE OF LITTLE FAITH.
CATCH!

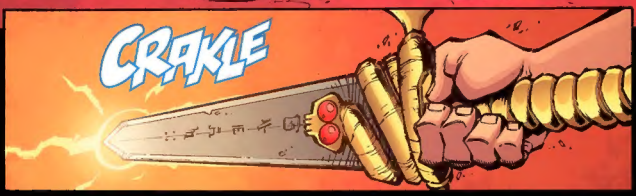
SILENCE is GOLDEN

J.S. Lewis - writer
Jon Sommariva - penciler
Allen Martinez - inker
Bill Crabtree - colorist
Wes Abbott - letterer
Michael McCalister - assistant editor
Shannon Denton & Scott Peterson - editors

CAN'T SAY AS I DO.
WHAT ABOUT SOME KIND OF SECRET PASSAGE?
YOU KNOW, WHERE YOU PULL A LEVER AND A DOOR OPENS UP IN THE WALL?
NOT THAT I KNOW OF, BUT YOU NEVER CAN TELL.
I HEARD TELL THERE WERE ALL MANNER OF TUNNELS AND SUCH BUILT BENEATH THIS GRAVEYARD. I'M AFRAID THEY'D BE FLOODED, THOUGH.

BUT I RECKON I MIGHT HAVE FOUND SOMETHING A MITE BETTER.
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
HOOOOO!!!
WHAT THE...

I DON'T RIGHTLY KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING, BUT IT FEELS LIKE A LIGHTNING STORM IS FLOWIN' THROUGH ME.
I'M NOT COMPLAINING, MIND YOU. IT'S JUST A MITE STRANGE.

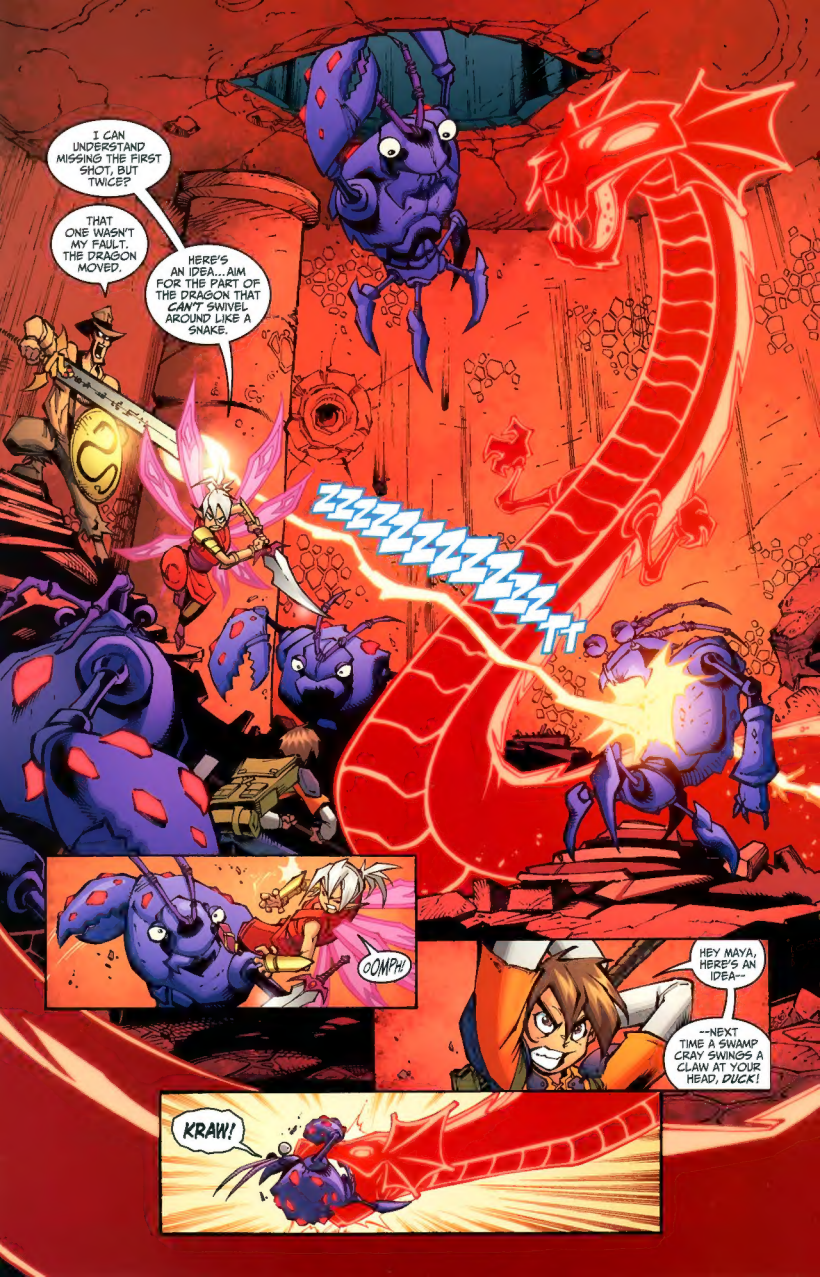

CRAKLE

KABOOM
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE POINTING THAT THING!

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

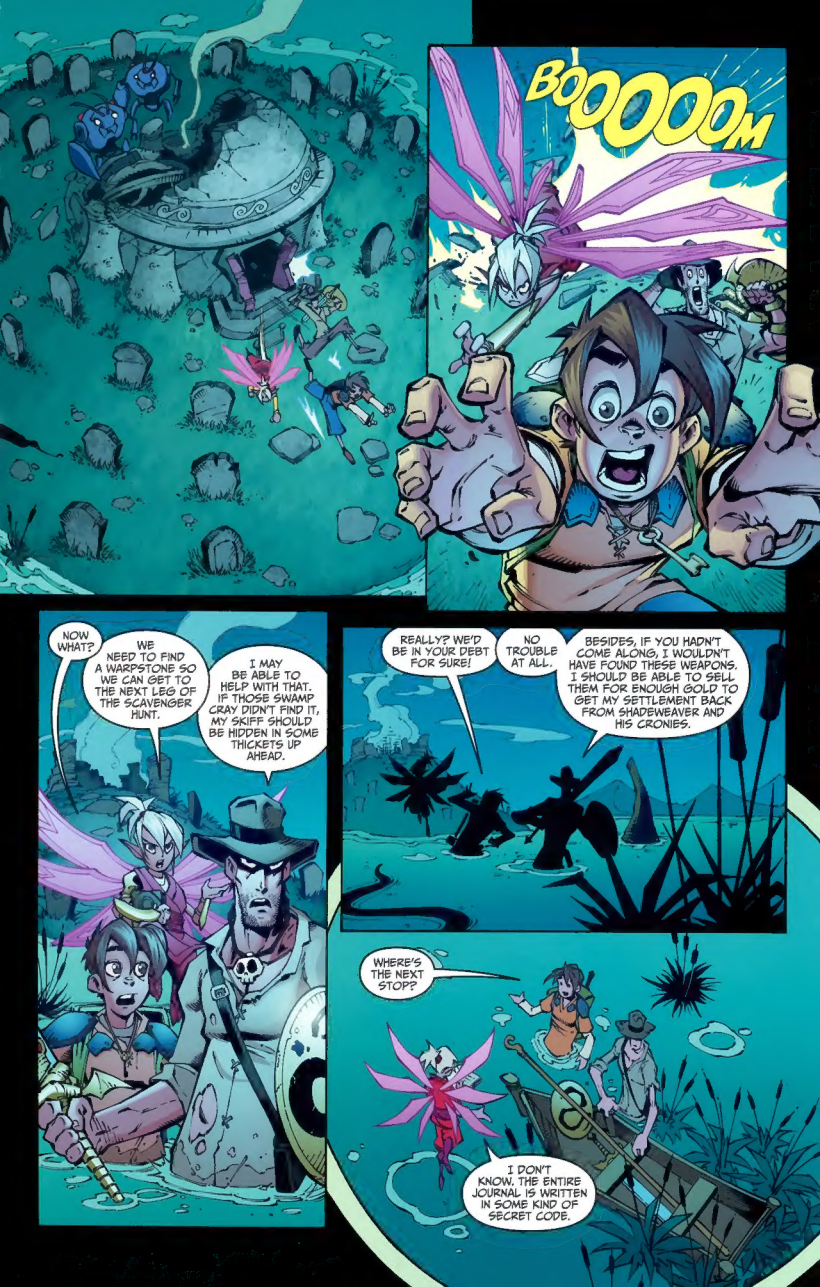
BOOM

KRAWWR!


I CAN UNDERSTAND MISSING THE FIRST SHOT, BUT TWICE?
THAT ONE WASN'T MY FAULT. THE DRAGON MOVED.
HERE'S AN IDEA... AIM FOR THE PART OF THE DRAGON THAT CAN'T SWIVEL AROUND LIKE A SNAKE.
ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZTT
OOMPH!
HEY MAYA, HERE'S AN IDEA--
--NEXT TIME A SWAMP CRAY SWINGS A CLAW AT YOUR HEAD, DUCK!
KRAW!

IT'S TOO BAD WE DON'T HAVE A GIANT COOKING POT AND SOME MELTED BUTTER.
KRAW!
I HAVEN'T HAD GOOD LOBSTER IN A LONG TIME.
THAT'S THE BEST IDEA YOU'VE HAD ALL DAY. THINK THAT HAMMER OF YOURS CAN CRACK THEIR SHELLS?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YOUR ARMS ARE KIND OF SCRAWNY, SO I WASN'T SURE.
SCRAWNY?
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
HEY LOGAN-- DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HIT THE TOP OF THAT PILLAR WITH YOUR NEW TOY?
CRACK
I'LL GIVE IT A TRY.

ZAAA
AAAAKK
NOT EXACTLY WHAT I WAS THINKING... BUT IT'LL WORK.
CRACK CRACK CRACK
TIME TO GET OUT OF HERE!
DO YOU STILL HAVE THE KEY?
YEP. GOT THE JOURNAL?
OF COURSE.


BOOOOOM
NOW WHAT?
WE NEED TO FIND A WARPSTONE SO WE CAN GET TO THE NEXT LEG OF THE SCAVENGER HUNT.
I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP WITH THAT. IF THOSE SWAMP GRAY DIDN'T FIND IT, MY SKIFF SHOULD BE HIDDEN IN SOME THICKETS UP AHEAD.
REALLY? WE'D BE IN YOUR DEBT FOR SURE!
NO TROUBLE AT ALL.
BESIDES, IF YOU HADN'T COME ALONG, I WOULDN'T HAVE FOUND THESE WEAPONS. I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SELL THEM FOR ENOUGH GOLD TO GET MY SETTLEMENT BACK FROM SHADEWEAVER AND HIS CRONIES.
WHERE'S THE NEXT STOP?
I DON'T KNOW. THE ENTIRE JOURNAL IS WRITTEN IN SOME KIND OF SECRET CODE.

WITHOUT A KEY TO THE CODE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO READ A SINGLE WORD.
WHAT ABOUT THE PAGE WITH ALL THE SQUIGGLY STUFF WRITTEN IN A CIRCLE? IS THAT THE KEY?
MAYBE, BUT I DOUBT IT.
WHY NOT?
BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE TOO SIMPLE.
SURE, THERE ARE 26 RUNES, JUST LIKE WE HAVE 26 LETTERS IN OUR ALPHABET--BUT IT CANNOT BE THAT EASY.
MAYBE A LITTLE LIGHT WILL HELP.

LOGAN, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
REALLY?
THE FLAMES FROM YOUR LANTERN MUST HAVE ACTIVATED THE RUNES.
HEY, I'M THE ONE WHO SAID THAT PAGE WAS THE KEY TO BREAKING THE CODE TO BEGIN WITH.
HOW ABOUT A LITTLE LESS WHINING AND A LITTLE MORE NOTE TAKING?
YOU HAVE A PEN IN THAT BACKPACK OF YOURS SO WE CAN WRITE ALL THIS DOWN?

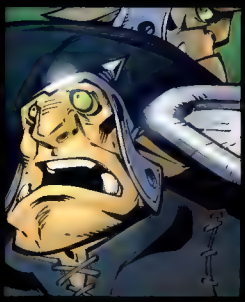
Greenwood Forest
OKAY. ACCORDING TO THE JOURNAL, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FIND A BOX IN SOME KIND OF A CAVE THAT SHOULDN'T BE TOO FAR FROM HERE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT DWARF HID INSIDE THE BOX?
I HOPE IT'S YOUR BRAIN.
VERY FUNNY.
IT WASN'T A JOKE.

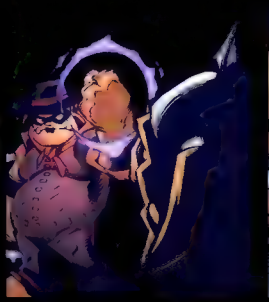
LOOK, YOU NEARLY GOT US KILLED BACK THERE, WHEN YOU BROKE THE CRYPT OPEN.
WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?
SLOW DOWN AND USE YOUR HEAD.
SLOW DOWN? THIS IS A *SCAVENGER HUNT*, NOT AN ALGEBRA TEST. SPEED IS PART OF THE GAME.

ALL THE SPEED IN THE WORLD ISN'T GOING TO MATTER IF YOU FALL DOWN A BOTTOMLESS PIT BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T TAKE THE TIME TO LOOK FOR A TRAP.

WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
BECAUSE BENEATH THAT GRUMPY EXTERIOR, YOU REALLY DO CARE ABOUT ME.
...YOU HAVE LOST YOUR MIND.

DO WE HAVE TIME TO STOP FOR A SNACK?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN A HURRY.
I AM, BUT I'M HUNGRY. RELIC HUNTING TAKES A LOT OF ENERGY.
CAN'T YOU JUST CHEW ON A STICK OF JERKY OR SOMETHING? WE'RE GOING TO BE AT THE CAVE ANY MINUTE.
CAVE
FINE.
SO I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...
SHHHH!
WHAT THE--?





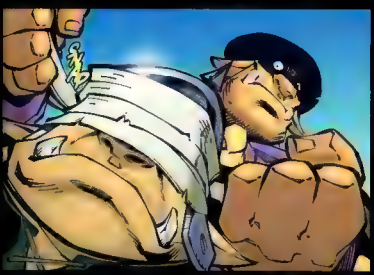
AREN'T THOSE THE TWO GOOFY CHUGAMUGS THAT TOOK US TO MEET CAPTAN CHUGUS?

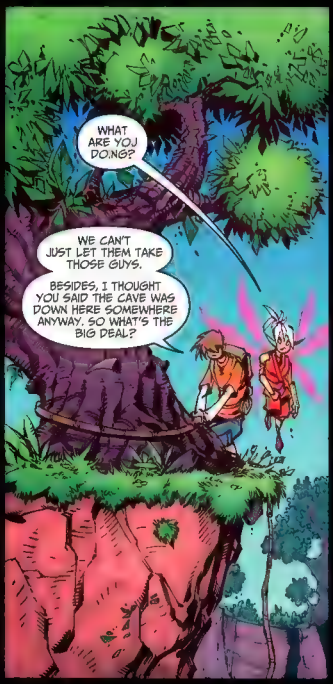
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE DOING HERE

WHO ARE AL... THOSE OTHER CHUGAMUGS IN THE MASKS?

THOSE AREN'T CHUGAMUGS THEY'RE THUGAMUG BANDITS.

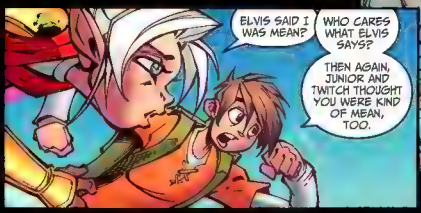
I BET DARKTHORNE SENT SNORG AND GORG TO ARREST THEM.




WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WE CAN'T JUST LET THEM TAKE THOSE GUYS.
BESIDES, I THOUGHT YOU SAID THE CAVE WAS DOWN HERE SOMEWHERE ANYWAY. SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER UNDERSTAND YOU.
MAYBE NOT, BUT THEY NEED OUR HELP. WOULDN'T YOU WANT THEM TO HELP YOU IF YOU WERE IN TROUBLE?

I SUPPOSE SO.
SEE? YOU AREN'T NEARLY AS MEAN AS ELVIS SAID YOU WERE.


ELVIS SAID I WAS MEAN?
WHO CARES WHAT ELVIS SAYS?
THEN AGAIN, JUNIOR AND TWITCH THOUGHT YOU WERE KIND OF MEAN, TOO.

SERIOUSLY?
HOLD UP.

HELLO, PRETTY LITTLE BUNNY.

THIS ONE MUST HAVE STRAYED AWAY FROM THE REST OF ITS GROUP. WE NEED TO JUMP IT WHILE WE CAN.
WAIT. I HAVE A BETTER IDEA

DARKTHORNE GAVE ME A PRESENT BEFORE WE LEFT BRIARWOOD.
WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* SHE GAVE YOU A PRESENT? I DIDN'T GET ANYTHING.
MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE SHE HEARD YOU'RE STALKING HER SISTER.
I AM NOT.

OH *YEAH!* HOW MANY MESSAGES DID YOU LEAVE HER LAST WEEK?
I DON'T KNOW. A FEW, I GUESS.
TRY *FOURTEEN.* THAT'S JUST PLAIN CREEPY.
NO IT ISN'T.

TRUST ME, I'VE HAD TO DEAL WITH CREEPY GUYS, AND LEAVING THAT MANY MESSAGES? DEFINITELY CREEPY.
YOU NEED TO BACK OFF. YOU KNOW, TRY AND PLAY HARD TO GET OR SOMETHING.
DOES THE PRETTY BUNNY WANT A SNACK?

REALLY?
LET ME THINK ABOUT IT FOR A SECOND.
UMMM... YEAH.
GREAT. DO YOU THINK I BLEW MY CHANCES WITH HER?
PROBABLY. BUT SHE'S THE QUEEN. WHAT KIND OF CHANCE DID YOU REALLY HAVE TO BEGIN WITH?
SPPLLOPP
NICE SHOT!
I JUST GOT LUCKY.
ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU COULD PITCH IN THE BIG LEAGUES WITH AN ARM LIKE THAT.
THAT'S WHAT MY DAD USED TO TELL ME.

SO DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH ORBS TO CAPTURE THE REST OF THE THUGAWUGS?
PROBABLY NOT.
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME THAT'S THE CAVE WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR.
OKAY, I WON'T TELL YOU...BUT IT IS.
IT'S JUST THAT I'M KIND OF ALLERGIC TO THE DARK.
DON'T WORRY. YOU AREN'T GOING INTO THE CAVE. I AM.
WHEW.
YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE BAIT.
THE WHAT?
YOU'RE GOING TO DRAW THEM AWAY SO I CAN SNEAK IN AND GET THE BOX.
NOW GET GOING! AND DON'T FORGET, THIS IS A RACE.
AAARRRGGHH!
YOU MIGHT WANT TO START RUNNING.

FreeRealms™

CLAIM YOUR REWARD!

NEW ACCOUNTS

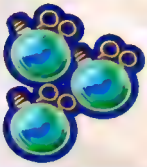
1. GO TO THE ***FREE REALMS*** WEBSITE - HTTP://WWW.FREEREALMS.COM
2. ENTER THE CODE INTO THE TEXT FIELD IN THE "REDEEM-A-CODE" BOX ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE HOME PAGE
3. CLICK THE GREEN "GO!" BUTTON
4. THESE CODES WORK WITH NEW AND EXISTING ACCOUNTS, SO IF YOU'RE A NEW PLAYER YOU'LL HAVE TO CREATE AN ACCOUNT AT THIS POINT IF YOU WANT TO CLAIM THE CODE; ON THE ***FREE REALMS*** LOG IN PAGE, CLICK THE "FIRST TIME HERE? START PLAYING FOR FREE!" HYPERLINK.
5. COMPLETE THE NEW ACCOUNT REGISTRATION
6. THE "CONGRATULATIONS!" SCREEN WILL APPEAR, ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR SUCCESSFUL CODE REDEMPTION AND YOUR RECEIPT OF THE IN-GAME ITEM
7. CLICK "CONTINUE"
8. YOU'RE IN! NOW CLICK THE SC ICON IN THE GAME DOCK!
9. SELECT THE "CLAIM" BUTTON TO LOAD THE ITEM CLAIM SCREEN
10. YOU'LL SEE THE *STINK BOMBS* ITEM IN YOUR PENDING CLAIMS. SELECT IT BY RUNNING THE CURSOR OVER IT AND LEFT-CLICKING, THEN CLICKING ON THE GREEN "CLAIM" BUTTON ON THE RIGHT!
11. ENJOY YOUR *STINK BOMBS*

ENTER THIS CODE

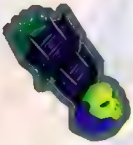
EXISTING ACCOUNTS

1. LOG IN AND LAUNCH ***FREE REALMS*** USING THE ACCOUNT AND CHARACTER WHO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE REWARD.
2. SELECT THE SC ICON ON THE GAME DOCK
3. SELECT THE "CLAIM" BUTTON TO LOAD THE ITEMS CLAIM SCREEN
4. ENTER THE CODE INTO THE TEXT FIELD IN THE "REDEEM-A-CODE" BOX ON THE TOP OF THE WINDOW
5. YOU'LL SEE THE *STINK BOMBS* ITEM IN YOUR PENDING CLAIMS. SELECT IT BY RUNNING THE CURSOR OVER IT AND LEFT-CLICKING, THEN CLICKING ON THE GREEN "CLAIM" BUTTON ON THE RIGHT!
6. ENJOY YOUR *STINK BOMBS*

STINK BOMBS



NIGHTMARISH GLOVES



FOR OUR READERS WHO HAVE PURCHASED ISSUES 5-8 AND HAVE REDEEMED THE SPECIAL CODE FOR EACH ISSUE, YOU'LL RECEIVE A *SPECIAL BONUS* ITEM OF THE *NIGHTMARISH* GLOVES ...SUPER COOL NINJA GEAR! IT'S JUST A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOYAL READERS! KEEP COLLECTING SINCE WE MAY HAVE MORE SURPRISES IN STORE!

THE STORM FRONT

Welcome back to this month's Storm Front!

By now, you've probably all heard about my new position as Co-Publisher of DC Comics along with Dan DiDio. I couldn't be more thrilled to be a part of the next chapter in DC Comics' history, but don't just take my word for it. You can see the enthusiasm for yourself at one of my upcoming appearances!

The first event I'll be going to is actually just for comic book retailers—the fourth annual ComicsPRO meeting in Memphis, TN. For those who don't know, ComicsPRO is a great resource for comic shops across America, and this year's event focuses on changes in the marketplace and the future of retailing. These retailers are the front line of comics for many fans and I've been fortunate to make friends with many of them over the years.

Very soon after that is WonderCon in San Francisco, another great show put on by the fine folks behind Comic-Con International in San Diego every year. I'm only planning to be there for one day, squeezing in panels and signings and as much general fraternizing as I can in the City by the Bay.

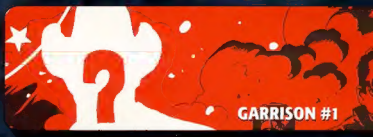
Then I cross the country to attend the Boston Comic Con for the first time. I've heard great things about the show, and I'm looking forward to meeting fans in the New England area. It should be another fun show and I'm honored to be a part of this up-and-coming convention.

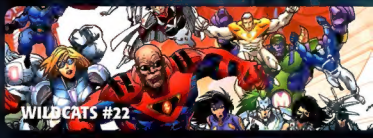
Another first is the first annual Chicago Comic & Entertainment Expo, C2E2 for short. Reed Exhibitions operates this show and if it's anything like the one they put on in New York, then I'm sure it'll be a blast! Just the thought of it is already making my head spin.

Meeting fans at conventions is always a great way to recharge my batteries; after this batch of shows I should be running on the Speed Force!

JIM LEE

OUT THIS MONTH!





COLLECTED EDITIONS:
STARCRAFT HC
TOM STRONG: THE DELUXE EDITION BOOK 2
WORLD OF WARCRAFT: ASHBRINGER TPB

IN STORES APRIL:

ASTRO CITY: THE DARK AGE BOOK 4 #4
THE AUTHORITY #21
THE AUTHORITY: THE LOST YEAR #8
DANTE'S INFERNO #5
DV8: GODS & MONSTERS #1
EX MACHINA #1 SPECIAL EDITION
FREE REALMS #8
GARRISON #1
GEN13 #35
SPARTA: USA #2
SUPERNATURAL: BEGINNING'S END #4
VICTORIAN UNDEAD #6
WILDCATS #22

For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at **wildstorm.com**

NEXT ISSUE: FREE REALMS #9

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DC Comics, a Warner Bros. Entertainment Company.

I HATE WHEN SHE TRAPS ME WITH MY OWN WORDS.
WHOOOOAAAHHH!
COMING THROUGH!

I KNOW THIS IS KIND OF A WEIRD THOUGHT...
...BUT MY OLD GYM TEACHER WOULD BE PROUD OF ME RIGHT NOW.
I'D LIKE TO SEE SOME SUPERHERO IN A COMIC BOOK TRY *THAT* ONE.

NOW IT'S TIME TO LEAD THIS HERD OF MASKED GENIUSES ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE.
"I JUST HOPE MAYA HAS ENOUGH TIME TO GET IN AND OUT OF THAT CAVE BEFORE I RUN OUT OF STEAM."
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE? A *THIEF*?
To be continued!